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the Louisiana writing and literary community has excelled as a viable form of artistic expression, WHEREAS, and initiatives such as the Louisiana Writers Foundation and the New Orleans Writers Museum are committed to promote historic and contemporary writers and to preserve and display their works; and

Book fairs and festivals to include the Louisiana Book Festival (Baton Rouge) and the New Orleans WHEREAS. Bookfair (New Orleans) are organized to promote writers, readers, publishers, and their products; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana is host to conferences and conventions for associations such as the American Library Association, Western Writers of America, and the Writers' Guild of Acadiana; and

WHEREAS. State agencies to include the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities and the Louisiana Division of the Arts grant funding for writing and publishing endeavors; and

Various conferences, festivals, workshops, and lectures to include Getting It Write! (Lafayette), Jubilee Writers' Conference (Houma /Thibodaux), New Orleans Writers' Conference (New Orleans), Words & Music (New Orleans), and the Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival (New Orleans) are organized to provide education and entertainment to the writing and reading community; and

WHEREAS, Organizations to include the Writers' Guild of Central Louisiana (Alexandria), Heart of Louisiana (Baton Rouge), and the North Louisiana Story Tellers and Authors of Romance (Shreveport) exist to create an environment where writers in a variety of genres can flourish; and

Various local consumer magazines, trade journals, professional publications, and newspapers hire WHEREAS. freelance and staff writers and journalists for articles and stories of interest to writers and readers; and

Numerous groups statewide have staged literary and poetry readings to provide venues for writers to present their creative works to the public; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana stage and screenplay writers have contributed plays and scripts to the theatrical and film industries.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2005, as

WRITERS APPRECIATION MONTH

in Louisiana, and encourage business; state government agencies; educational institutions; state and community-based groups; publishers; public and private libraries; and foundations, associations, organizations, and guilds to encourage participation throughout their communities.

> In Wilness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the

Attest By

Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this

18th day of May

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Governor of Louisiana